

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0045] with the following amended paragraph:

[0045] The chemical hydrides used in the system and method of the present invention can be supplied in combination with a promoter. Preferably, if a promoter is present, the promoter is mixed with the chemical hydride material. Suitable promoters for the reaction of ~~metal~~ chemical hydrides with an aqueous solution are known to one of skill in the art. Such promoters include, but are not limited to, transition metals, transition metal borides, alloys of these materials, and mixtures thereof. Transition metal promoters useful in the promoter systems of the present invention are described in U.S. Pat. No. 5,804,329, issued to Amendola, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety for all purposes. Transition metal promoters, as used herein, are promoters containing Group IB to Group VIIIB metals of the periodic table or compounds made from these metals. Examples of useful transition metal elements and compounds include, but are not limited to, ruthenium, iron, cobalt, nickel, copper, manganese, rhodium, rhenium, platinum, palladium, chromium, silver, osmium, iridium, alloys thereof, salts thereof including chlorides and borides, and mixtures thereof. Preferred salts include cobalt chloride, iron chloride and nickel chloride. Preferred promoters used in present invention preferably have high surface areas. One of skill in the art will recognize that the high surface area of the promoters used in the present invention corresponds to the promoters having, on average, small particles size. The promoter may be any structural physical form, for example a monolith.